Low production of cotton thread and cotton clothes

†389. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been estimated that production of cotton thread and cotton clothes will be low by approximately ten per cent in the country during the current financial year;

(b) if not, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there has been decrease in the production of clothes and thread and export due to higher prices of cotton in the country this year; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is a marginal decline of 1.40% in respect of Cotton yarn and 0.68% in respect of cotton fabrics during the current year (Apr.-Dec).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of above.

Handloom Cluster Development Scheme at Varanasi

390. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme at Varanasi provide raw material support, design inputs, up-gradation of technology, infrastructure development, marketing support, welfare of weavers etc.;

(b) if so, what is the status of this scheme and how many weavers/artisans have been benefited out of this scheme in Varanasi;

(c) what is monetory support extended in this regard;

(d) the details of self help groups working in the area given financial assistance and to what extent; and

(e) whether Government will extend this scheme to all weavers of Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (e) The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) has been recently introduced by Government of India. The scheme will cover about 25,000 handlooms in the Varanasi Mega Handloom Cluster, benefiting about 50,000 handloom weavers. The scheme

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.